



PSC NEWS

Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-04-142

PSC MODIFIES HEARING SCHEDULE IN FIDELITY TELEPHONE COMPANY RATE CASE

Jefferson City (March 1, 2004)---The Missouri Public Service Commission has modified the hearing schedule in a telephone rate case filed by the Fidelity Telephone Company. Hearings originally scheduled to begin on April 5, 2004, are now scheduled to start on **April 7, 2004**, in the Commission's offices located in the Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, in Jefferson City. Hearings will continue through **April 9, 2004**, if necessary.

The Governor Office Building meets accessibility standards required by the Americans With Disabilities Act. Anyone needing additional accommodations to participate in the hearings should call the Public Service Commission's Hotline at 1-800-392-4211 (voice) or Relay Missouri at 711 prior to the hearings.

On December 30, 2003, Fidelity Telephone Company filed a rate request with the Public Service Commission seeking to increase annual telephone revenues by approximately \$2,359,970. Fidelity Telephone Company provides telephone service to approximately 16,700 access lines in the Missouri counties of Crawford, Franklin, Gasconade, Washington and Osage.

Fidelity Telephone Company is seeking to increase the basic monthly telephone rate for one-party residential customers from the current rate of \$7.55 a month to \$11.25 a month. For one-party business customers, the telephone company is seeking to increase the monthly telephone rate from \$14.25 a month to \$18.95 a month. The telephone company is also seeking to increase the rates of a number of other non-basic telephone services including the local toll Outstate Calling Area (OCA) plan and directory assistance charges. In addition, Fidelity Telephone is seeking to increase the rates charged to long distance carriers for access to the Fidelity telephone network to complete a long distance call.

The Missouri Public Service Commission will hold local public hearings in Gerald and Sullivan on March 9, 2004, to receive customer comment on the proposed rate case filed by the Fidelity Telephone Company.

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